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 TO AMEMBASSY HARARE IMMEDIATE 8602
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EXDIS

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
 TAGS: PINS, PTER, CASC, ZI
 SUBJECT: ABDUCTION OF AMCITS IN ZIMBABWE: BRIEFING OF
 SENATOR JACKSON

REF: HARARE 0090

SENATOR JACKSON WAS BRIEFED AT THE NSC JANUARY 6 BY MR.
 MCFARLANE, AMBASSADOR SAYRE, AMBASSADOR BISOP AND OTHER
 REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE AND CIA. THE BRIEFING WAS
 FRANK AND OPEN AND APPEARED TO GO WELL. SENATOR JACKSON
 EXPRESSED THE CONCERN OF THE FAMILIES THAT THE ZIMBABWE
 GOVERNMENT NOT TAKE PRECIPITOUS ACTION AGAINST REBELS IN
 THE MATABELELAND REGION WHICH MIGHT ENDANGER THE LIVES OF
 THE HOSTAGES. HE ALSO RAISED THE QUESTION OF WHETHER IT
 WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE THE TRIAL OF DABENGWA AND MASUKU
 DEFERRED FOR A WHILE OR PERHAPS EVEN SEND THESE TWO ZAPU
 LEADERS TO A THIRD COUNTRY. JACKSON WAS TOLD THE ZIMBABWE
 GOVERNMENT WOULD BE UNLIKELY TO BE RECEPTIVE TO SUCH AN
 IDEA. HOWEVER, ONCE SENTENCE WAS HANDED DOWN THERE WAS
 ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY OF EXECUTIVE CLEMENCY TO LIGHTEN
 WHATEVER SENTENCE WAS PASSED. JACKSON STATED THAT HE
 TALKS WITH THE ELLIS FAMILY EVERY COUPLE OF DAYS AND
 THEREFORE WAS VERY APPRECIATIVE OF THE BRIEFING. SHULTZ
 END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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